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Merritt

French - Canadian Defence System

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Canadian Defence League

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OBJECTS OF THE LEAGUE.

1. To awaken the public mind to the serious importance of national defence, and to aid in bringing about the adoption of the most effective and economical system to that end.

2. To carry on a non-political, educational campaign looking to the adoption of the principle of patriotic, unpaid, or universal naval or military training, in the belief that such training conduces to the industrial, physical and moral elevation of the whole people, and is essential to national safety.

3. To co-operate with the various Provincial educational authorities, the Department of Militia and Defence, and the Trustees of the Strathcona Fund, in introducing physical and military training into the schools of Canada.

4. To aid in securing the systematic physical and military training of all youths between the ages of fourteen and eighteen.

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The EDITH *and* LORNE PIERCE
COLLECTION *of* CANADIANA



Queen's University at Kingston

The Old Militia Law of Canada, The New Militia Laws of Australia and New Zealand, and Lord Kitchener's Report.

Extracts from a Paper by LIEUT.-COL. WM. HAMILTON
MERRITT, R.O., President Canadian Military Institute.

(Read before the Canadian Military Institute at Toronto, on
Monday evening, 21st Nov., 1910.)

Events in connection with reorganization of the Militia within the British Empire are moving so rapidly that one might well hesitate before placing pen to paper on the subject, especially when great modern soldiers like Lord Kitchener and Sir John French are advising the over-seas Dominions of the Empire. It may, however, not be out of place to consider at this juncture the respective Militia Laws as they exist to-day in Australia and New Zealand and as they existed in Canada more than a hundred years ago, and their bearing on the position.

Lord Kitchener found in the Southern Seas a Commonwealth and a Dominion which had just adopted systems of naval and military training quite in line with modern progressive thought; but Sir John French, on the other hand, has no doubt been much handicapped by discovering that the present military training system in Canada is founded on the voluntary basis, and that in the country at large there is complete indifference to the matter of defence, and a general marked disinclination to make personal self-sacrifice in connection therewith.

FRENCH PERIOD.

To appreciate our 1808 Militia Act we must go back to the French occupation of Canada, to the old French laws or regulations, and then to the ordinances founded on them and issued by British Governors.

Mr. Benjamin Sulte of Ottawa has been undoubtedly the leading authority on the French Militia, and I therefore draw the following interesting historical facts relating to it from his extensive and valuable work on that subject : *

* See also Mr. Sulte's paper in Transactions of the Institute for 1896-97, p. 27-32.

The Canadian Militia dates back to 1649, when the population of the colony did not exceed 1,000 souls. Some 50 men were then under arms to drive off Iroquois marauders. From that time the Militia has always had its marked place among us, because, under the French regime, it held the place of the Royal Troops, and since 1760 it was frequently relied on as the chief force of the country.

The story for a couple of centuries mixes together militia and regular. The Carignan Regiment arrived in 1665 and left in 1669, but the militia was already in existence. It was the militia which played the principal role in the first campaign of 1666 against the Iroquois. In 1674-1676 Count de Frontenac reorganized the militia, and up to 1760 it remained under his formation. The British authorities kept it for a century after that on the same plan. From 1684 to 1740 occasional companies of regulars from France were merely auxiliaries to the militia in the defence of Canada. But Dieskan, then Montcalm, in bringing French regiments (1753-1755) to carry on the war with England, changed the aspect of things and the Militia took second place for the first time since 1665, but one knows that it covered itself with glory during this war of 7 years which terminated 18th Sep., 1760, by the capitulation of Montreal. When the English took possession of Canada the three classes which deserved attention and consideration were (1) The Catholic clergy, (2) The Habitants born on the soil, (3) The militia (composed of "2"), active and animated by an excellent spirit. The militia received no pay and no equipment, each man furnishing his own fire-piece. Parishes were responsible for units of 5, 10, 20 men to a half or a full company. The Captain was a man of influence and ability, selected for these reasons. He served as bailiff, &c., and received all the communications from the Government. In a general way he co-operated with the Seigneur and the Curé, and he had a special pew (banc d'honneur) in the church. In those days training was confined to practice in shooting, as matters relating to camping, transport, &c., were "in the blood" and part of the French-man's daily life.

The institution "Captains of Militia" of the parishes was not disdained by the Conquerors—far from that. They recognized in it an importance which the lapse of years rendered greater. Mr Soule thus moralizes on the reasoning of French-Canadians, "Allegiance for allegiance, that did not prevent them being Canadians before all, and when it had been a question of defending the country, it was never considered that the flag under which they formerly fought had been replaced by another. As a matter of fact, the French of France had gone, there remained on the shores of the great river only 'Canadians.' The English had their faults, but the condition was no worse than the old regime. Of two evils choose the least. Our fathers accommodated themselves

to the change. It has not changed, it continues, it can last yet for a long time!"

Murray, in 1760, gave the "Captains of Militia" of the Parishes power similar to that of our judges—under a form of "Military rule." The Treaty of Versailles was signed in Feb'y, 1763, and proclaimed 18th May. The militia were disarmed, but soon, however, permission was given in a wholesale manner to people who wanted arms to hunt, and for whom the officers of militia intervened.

In May, 1764, five companies of Canadians were raised by the "Captains of Militia" against Pontiac. Six hundred answered the appeal. Peace was signed at Oswego in 1766. Prominent among the Canadians were St. Ange de Bellerive of Illinois, Godefroy and Baby of Detroit district. The siege of Quebec took place in Dec., 1775. Our militia sustained the first and the only great clash of this war. In 1777 an Ordinance relative to militia was passed. If, in 1778 and 1782, Canada was not taken by the United States it was due to the French-Canadians. From 1776 to 1783 the Governor (Carleton) kept up three militia companies on war-strength, and he took out of it the N. C. O.s, who served as instructors to the sedentary militia. By 1784 the disarmament was complete. There was only one company of militia.

Of the institutions of the old regime which the English Crown considered most vital to retain, it must be recognized that the Militia organization stood out from all that remained of the French system. In fact, we ask, did anything remain stable of all that France had done in Canada? Pitt allowed the province to regulate its militia affairs. Dorchester organized a regiment of two battalions before going to England in 1796 (after 27 years in Canada), one of them entirely composed of French-Canadians, the 2nd Battalion having some French-Canadians, but chiefly English. Promotion being Regimental, they were equally mixed at the end of six years. If this Regiment had not existed we would have been taken at a much greater disadvantage in 1812. Indeed 1200 to 1500 men of all grades who had not forgotten their training are very valuable when it is a matter of putting some 15,000 recruits on a war footing. In 1802 the Regiment was broken up in ten or twelve detachments in the two provinces, and it was disbanded in September.

MILITIA ORDINANCES BY BRITISH GOVERNORS.

Ordinances carrying on the old French Militia regulations of Frontenac were in operation during the period of Canadian History just described.

We then come to the important Militia Act of 1808 which superseded the ordinances and which played so important a part in saving Canada to the British Empire.

CANADA, 1808.

MILITIA ACT—UPPER AND LOWER CANADA — 1808.

Extracts from "Statutes of Upper Canada"—in the 48th year of the reign of George III.—Francis Gore, Esq., Lieut.-Governor, A.D. 1808.

An Act to explain, amend and redact to one Act of Parliament the several Laws now in being for the RAISING and TRAINING the Militia of this Province.—(Passed 16th March, 1808.)

III—That every male inhabitant from 16 to 60 years of age shall be deemed capable of bearing arms, and shall enroll his name as a militia-man on the first training day on which the said Companies shall be drawn out, in the division or limit in which his place of abode may be, and shall at such meeting give in his name, his age, and place of residence, and if he has thereto but lately removed, he shall make the same known, together with the place from whence he removed, and each and every such inhabitant who shall not attend and give in his name to the Captain or O. C. Company for such division or limit, so that his name may be enrolled as a militia-man, shall for such neglect forfeit and pay the sum of 10 shillings, &c,— provision for notice.....and no one over 50 years of age to be called out except for day of annual meeting, or war, or emergency.

V—On the 4th day of June, or oftener, if he thinks necessary, Commanding Officer of Regt. shall call out his command to be reviewed and exercised, and every person neglecting or refusing to attend shall forfeit and pay, if an officer 40 shillings, or a N.C.O. or private 10 shillings. O. C. may vary time and place and split his unit, and at every such review the Capt. or officer commanding company shall give to the Colonel, or senior officer, fair written rolls of their respective companies, and the O. C. shall transmit returns to Govt. within 14 days from 4th June, under penalty of £5 for each O. C. company, and for each O. C. Regt. £10 for each neglect or refusal.

VIII—That in time of war, rebellion, or any other pressing exigency, it shall and may be lawful for the Government to call out and march Militia anywhere in the Province, and any person refusing to obey such order or command, or absconding from, or neglecting to repair to the place he is ordered, being an officer, shall forfeit and pay the sum of £50, and be held to be unfit to serve His Majesty as an officer in any military capacity; or, being a N.C.O. or private, shall forfeit and pay the sum of £20, or go to gaol for not less than 6 or more than 12 months. Service for not more than 6 months continuous.

XIV—Every person enrolled shall, within 6 months, provide himself with a good and sufficient musket, fusil, rifle or gun, with at least six rounds of powder and ball, and shall come provided with it when called out. And neglect to provide or come with it makes him liable to fine; for review, &c., of 5 shillings, or for actual service 40 shillings.

WAR OF 1812—14.

The Regular Troops in 1812 in Lower Canada were :

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Artillery | 445 |
| Royal Newfoundland Regt. | } 3783 |
| Glengarry Light Infantry | |
| Canadian Voltigeurs | |
| Canadian Fencibles | 1226 |

Total Regulars5454

In Upper Canada there were (on 4th July, 1812) 1658 British Regulars of all ranks. On 28th May, 1812, four Battalions of Militia (The Voltigeurs) were raised in Lower Canada, as if by magic, in 48 hours, under Major de Salaberry. War was declared 18th June, 1812.

The following general facts concerning population and troops engaged have been kindly supplied me by Col. E. A. Cruikshank, our best known authority on Upper Canadian Military History.

The population of Canada in 1812 has been estimated as follows :—Upper Canada, 80,000 ; Lower Canada, 320,000 ; Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, 200,000.—Total of the several Provinces, 600,000. Sir G. Prevost, in a despatch in 1812, estimated the enrolled militia of Upper Canada at 11,000, of whom he said it would not be prudent to arm more than 4,000.

The census of the United States in 1810 showed a population exceeding eight millions, which had undoubtedly materially increased by 1812—a proportion of more than 13 to 1.

With reference to the American forces a committee of the United States Senate submitted a report on the 19th February 1859, from which the following statistics are extracted :—

| | |
|---|---------|
| In July, 1812, the U.S. regular army numbered | 6,686 |
| In February, 1813, the U.S. regular army numbered | 19,036 |
| In September, 1814, the U. S. regular army numbered | 38,186 |
| In February, 1815, the U. S. regular army numbered | 33,424 |
| Average number who served 1 year or upwards during war..... | 38,186 |
| Navy, seamen do. do. do. do. do. | 15,194 |
| Do. marines do. do. do. do. do. | 2,652 |
| Number of militia who served one year or upwards..... | 7,147 |
| Do. who served more than 6 and less than 12 mos..... | 66,325 |
| Do. who served more than 3 and less than 6 months..... | 125,643 |
| Do. who served less than three months | 125,307 |

Grand total380,454

The Newburyport Herald published the following statistics of losses in the U. S. regular army and militia during the war :

| | | | |
|------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Regulars—Deaths | 1812, 13,476 | 1813, 16,409 | 1814, 18,015 |
| Desertions | 1812, 5,072 | 1813, 6,004 | 1814, 6,284 |
| Militia—Deaths | 1812, 977 | 1813, 990 | 1814, 870 |
| Desertions | 1812, 2,015 | 1813, 1,367 | 1814, 1,368 |

VICTORIES WON BY BRITISH ARMS IN 1812-13-14. 1812.

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Michilimackinac (1)..... | 17 July |
| Detroit..... | 16 August |
| Queenston..... | 13 October |
| Frenchman's Creek..... | 28 November |

1813.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| River Raisin..... | 22 January |
| Ogdensburg..... | 22 February |
| Miami..... | 5 May |
| Isle Aux Noix..... | 3 June |
| Stoney Creek..... | 5 June |
| Beaver Dams or Beech Woods..... | 24 June |
| Schlosser..... | 5 July |
| Black Rock..... | 11 July |
| Chateauguay..... | 26 October |
| Crysler's Farm..... | 11 November |
| * Nanticoke Creek | 13 November |
| * McCrae's House | 15 December |
| Fort Niagara..... | 19 December |
| Black Rock and Buffalo..... | 30 December |

*—Included because they were actions entirely planned and fought by the Militia without any advice or assistance from regular soldiers, and were besides very creditable little affairs.

1814.

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| La Colle..... | 31 March |
| Oswego..... | 6 May |
| Prairie du Chien..... | 17 July |
| Lundy's Lane..... | 25 July |
| Michilimackinac (2)..... | 4 August |
| Cook's Mills..... | 19 October |

CHANGES LEADING TO EXISTING MILITIA SYSTEM.

The weakness of the old Militia System was in its rendering. In some Provinces the militia-man eventually was only taught to bear arms in one muster day a year, and there was no other training even in the matter of rifle-shooting. In other Provinces, such as Nova Scotia, a better state of things prevailed, but the general weak rendering of an otherwise perfect and necessary system for Canada caused efforts to be made to create an active militia which should have more training. This appears to have

been the object of the partial change effected by the Act of 1846, and of the epoch-making Act of 1855. The Act of 1846 was the thin edge of the wedge. Its most noticeable features are the introduction of the classification of the old "universal service" militia and the authorization of "volunteer" companies. While the universal annual enrollment was retained, the men of 40 and over were formed into a second class, which was to be drawn upon only in war-time. The first class were to be drawn upon for a military force raised for "active" service, not more than 30,000 strong, the "period of service" to be two years. Only one day's training was still the extent of the service required. The Act of 1855 brought about a departure from the old "Patriotic Service" form of military organization in Canada, and contemplated the raising of some 5,000 men to form "corps d'elite" among the militia and the retention of the old "universal service." Two "divisions" of militia were now recognized, the "sedentary" and the "active" or "volunteer." The former was to be enrolled annually. The members of the active or volunteer force were to provide their uniforms and clothing free, but they were to receive pay for a specified number of days' drill in the year. In 1859 the volunteer militia were ordered to drill for 6 consecutive days in each year, with pay of a dollar a day. In the early sixties schools of military instruction in connection with the regulars, then in Canada, were established with \$50 allowance to those who obtained certificates of qualification in a 56 days' course. In all, more than 6,000 certificates were thus obtained. In 1865 the volunteer militia was ordered 16 days' drill at 50c a day. In 1868, after Confederation, a Militia Act for the whole Dominion was passed, which is virtually the system at present existing, with an active militia and a dormant, or sedentary, militia as a reserve. The Militia Act of 1901 is, however, a more decided step in the direction of a standing army in that it provides for a permanent force of 2,000, increased in 1905 to 5,000.

The annual muster day was evidently kept up until Confederation, for Lt.-Col. James Walker of Calgary, commanding officer of the 15th Alberta Light Horse, informs me that he enrolled a company at Ancaster Village in 1867, on May 24th, Capt. Snider being then the commanding officer of the company. It seems amazing to realize, through Col'n. Walker, who is still a most active and efficient officer, what a short time has elapsed since the falling-away took place from the principle of "patriotic" or "universal" service, and the adoption of our present "mercenary or dollar" system. Col. Walker bears testimony to the disrepute into which the one muster-day had fallen, how the fine alone forced out the militia-man, where, indeed, he may not have been attracted by the Captain's customary "treat" at the nearest tavern, and how respect for superiors had almost vanished, when men would give such answers to their names as "Sitting on the fence," or "Chewing a quid of tobacco!"

OPINION OF CHANGES, BY A VETERAN.

It might be of interest to quote the opinion of one who fought through 1812-13 and 14, and who lived to see and lament the retrograde steps of new militia enactments. In the biography of the Hon. William Hamilton Merritt, who was Lieut. in the "Niagara Light Dragoons," 1812, and Capt. commanding a troop of "Provincial Dragoons" ("Niagara Frontier Guides") in 1813-14 until taken prisoner at the battle of Lundy's Lane, we find his biographer (J. P. Merritt, his son) states:—"1846.—A new militia bill was brought in, on which he expressed a preference for the old law of 1808, inaugurated under the immortal Brock, whereby flank companies were always kept enrolled and trained for an emergency, thereby forming an active force, ready at any time to take the field, and form a rallying body for the rest. The wisdom of this scheme was well tried in 1812, when nearly the entire militia force was ready to take the field in defence of their country in from 12 to 24 hours after the declaration of war." And again:

"1854.—In March of this year we find the first movement towards establishing a volunteer organization, which afterwards entirely supplanted the old militia, although we doubt if the results of the movements has paid us good interest on the money spent over its institution, as we are still without the efficient home army of 1794, 1812 or even 1837."

AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND THE FIRST IN THE EMPIRE.

Australia and New Zealand have the honor of being the first of the nations within the British Empire to adopt for present requirements the principle of patriotic, unpaid, or universal naval or military training. Their recent Acts show similarity of spirit to that of the old Canadian Act of 1808.

AUSTRALIA, 1910.

EXTRACTS FROM AUSTRALIA NAVAL AND MILITARY DEFENCE ACT 1903, 1909, 1910.

PROMOTIONS.

"11A—All promotions in the Citizens' Forces to the rank of officer and N. C. O. shall be from those who have served in the ranks of the Citizens' Forces and the appointments and promotions shall be allotted to those in the next lower grade who are most successful in competitive examinations. The standards and manner of holding such examinations shall be prescribed in the regulations. All books required for such examination shall be issued to candidates without charge.

THE DEFENCE FORCE.

"The Defence Force shall consist of the Naval and Military Forces of the Commonwealth, and shall be divided into two branches, called the Permanent Forces and the Citizen Forces.

SCHOOL FOR INSTRUCTIONAL N. C. O's.

"21B. A Special School of Instruction shall be established for the training of an instructional staff of non-commissioned officers, and all future appointments of persons to act as instructors shall be made from amongst those who have, at the close of the prescribed course, satisfied the Chief of the General Staff, or some person duly appointed by him, that they are competent. Provided that persons who have acted as instructors in the British army, or who, having served in the British army, satisfy the Chief of the General Staff that they have the necessary qualifications, may be appointed without passing through such course."

LIABILITY FOR WAR SERVICE.

59.—All male inhabitants of Australia (excepting those who are exempt from service in the Defence Force) who have resided therein for six months and are British subjects and are between the ages of 18 and 60 years shall, in time of war, be liable to serve in the Citizen Forces.

"PART XII—UNIVERSAL OBLIGATION IN RESPECT OF NAVAL OR MILITARY TRAINING.

125.—All male inhabitants of Australia (excepting those who are exempted by this Act), who have resided therein for six months, and are British subjects, shall be liable to be trained, as prescribed, as follows:—

(a) From 12 years to 14 years of age, in the Junior Cadets;
and

(b) From 14 to 18 years of age, in the Senior Cadets; and

(c) From 18 to 25 years of age, in the Citizen Forces; and

(d) From 25 to 26 years of age, in the Citizen Forces;

"Provided that, except in time of imminent danger of war, service under paragraph (d) shall be limited to one registration or one muster-parade.

126.—(1.) The training in the Junior Cadets shall begin on the first day of July in the year in which the persons liable reach the age of 12 years, and shall continue for 2 years;

"Provided that, in the case of persons who reach the age of 13 years in the year in which this part commences, the training shall begin on the first day of July in that year, and continue for 1 year.

"(2.) The training in the Senior Cadets shall begin on the first day of July in the year in which the persons liable reach the age of 14 years, and shall continue for 4 years;

"Provided that, in the case of persons who reach the age of

15, 16 or 17 years in the year in which this part commences, the training shall begin on the first day of July in that year, and continue for 3 years, or 1 year respectively.

"(3) The training in the Citizen Forces shall begin on the first day of July in the year in which the persons liable reach the age of 18 years, and shall continue for 7 years.

127.—The prescribed training shall be, in each year ending the thirtieth day of June, of the following duration :—

- (a) In the Junior Cadets 120 hours ; and
- (b) In the Senior Cadets 4 whole-day drills, 12 half-day drills, and 24 night drills ; and
- (c) In the Citizen Forces 16 whole-day drills or their equivalent ; of which not less than 8 shall be in camps of continuous training.

"Provided that, in the case of those allotted to the Naval Forces and to the Artillery and Engineers in the Military Forces, the training shall be 25 whole-day drills or their equivalent, of which not less than 17 shall be in camps of continuous training.

"Provided also that the duration of a whole-day drill shall be not less than six hours, of a half-day drill not less than three hours, and of a night drill not less than one hour and a half.

134.—(1) No employer shall prevent, or attempt to prevent, any employee who is serving or liable to serve in the Cadets or Citizen Forces from rendering the personal service required of him, or from attending any camp of instruction appointed to be held by the Head-quarters of the Commonwealth or any Military District, or in any way penalize, or attempt to penalize, any employee for rendering, or being liable to render such personal service, or for attending such camp, either by reducing his wages or dismissing him from his employment or in any other manner ;

"Provided that this section shall not be construed to require an employer to pay an employee for any time when he is absent from employment for the purpose of training.

"Penalty : One hundred pounds.

141.—No person shall be permitted to serve in the Cadets or in the Defence Force who is found by any Court appointed in that behalf by the regulations—

- (a) To have been convicted of any disgraceful or infamous crime, or
- (b) To be of notoriously bad character.

NEW ZEALAND, 1910.

The New Zealand Defence Bill bears date, 24th Dec., 1909. The Bill was carried by an overwhelming majority of 65 to 3 votes.

PART IV.

MILITIA.

27.—(1.) All the male inhabitants of New Zealand between the ages of 17 and 55, not hereinafter exempted, who have resided in New Zealand for a period of six months, are liable to be trained and serve in the Militia.

PART VI.

UNIVERSAL OBLIGATION TO BE TRAINED.

35.—Subject to the provisions of this Act, male inhabitants of New Zealand who have resided therein for six months and are British subjects shall be liable to be trained as prescribed, as follows :—

- (a.) From 12 years to 14 years of age, or to the date of leaving school, whichever is the later, in the Junior Cadets ; and
- (b.) From 14 years of age or the date of leaving school, as the case may be, to 18 years of age, or, in the case of those who, on attaining the age of 18, are attending a secondary school, then to the date of their leaving school, in the Senior Cadets ; and
- (c.) From 18 years of age, or from any later date on which they cease to attend a secondary school as aforesaid, to 25 years of age, in the General Training Section, or the Territorial Force, in the case of their transfer to that Force ; and
- (d.) From 25 years to 30 years of age, in the Reserve.

SCOUT CADETS.

39.—(1.) The Minister of Education may, at the request of the controlling authority, take over the control of the Boy Scouts or any of them who are not Junior Cadets, and when so taken over they shall form a separate branch of the Junior Cadets and be known as "Scout Cadets," and be subject to the provisions of the principal Act so far as they relate to the Junior Cadets, except that the restrictions as to age limit contained in subsection 1 of section 37 thereof shall not apply to Scout Cadets, and Scout Cadets may continue as such until they attain the age of 18 years or cease to attend a secondary school, whichever is the later.

(2.) The amount of training of the Scout Cadets shall be equivalent to that fixed for the Senior Cadets, and shall be as prescribed by regulations.

(3.) All Scout Cadets, on attaining the age of 18 years, or on any later date on which they cease to attend a secondary school, shall be drafted in the manner prescribed into the General Training Section.

LORD KITCHENER'S REPORT TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

The recommendations contained in Lord Kitchener's recent Reports have been adopted and made law in both Australia and New Zealand.

In a very brief summary it may be said that Lord Kitchener suggested to Australia and New Zealand that their country should be divided into Areas, each under a "Permanent Instructional Officer," who is assisted by one or more "permanent instructional N. C. O.s." The officers to be graduates of the Military College. Those entering the College to be selected senior cadets. Lord Kitchener recommends that the Instructors be well paid, and he lays down suggested duties for them, which include registration, training, &c., &c.

Three county or two city Areas support one Battalion of Infantry. About ten Areas make one Group which is under a superior instructional officer (Major), who becomes Brigade-Major in war time. Groups of Areas are arranged according to strength of troops in them; as an example, Group V (comprising ten Areas) has 4 battalions of Infantry, 8 squadrons of light horse, 2 field batteries, 1 engineer company, 1 army service corps company and 1 field ambulance.

THE FRENCH-CANADIAN MODEL.

With the above extracts from the three sets of Militia Acts before us, it would almost look as if Lord Kitchener had taken for the model of his report to Australia and New Zealand the old-time Militia Act and Militia customs of the Canadas. For the "parishes" of the French-Canadian Organization we have the "areas" suggested by Lord Kitchener, and for the "Captains of Militia," qualified by personal aptitude for command and educated by the exigencies of frontier life and all that, it meant in those days, we have the "permanent instructional officer" graduated from the Military College, and finished off by short service with the regular army of Great Britain, or India.

BASIS APPLIED TO CANADA.

As an example of the working out of Lord Kitchener's suggestions, suppose they could be applied to Canada in exactly the same proportion (as to population) as they will operate in Australia and New Zealand. We should have here in Canada 322 areas, 525 (staff corps) permanent instructional officers (graduates of the Military College), and some 600 warrant and N. C. O.s (instead of the 4834 officers and men in the permanent corps as at present). There would be a peace-establishment of some 120,000 trained fighting men (from our 2,000,000 males of a fighting age in Canada), 336 guns, and a cost in the seventh year (including cost of Military College) of less than fourteen million dollars.

EXTRACTS FROM REPORT.

The following are important details culled from Lord Kitchener's Report :—

"The first and imperative principle for the enrolment and maintenance of these men as an efficient (citizen) force is that THE NATION AS A WHOLE TAKE A PRIDE in its defenders, insist upon the organization being REAL AND DESIGNED FOR WAR PURPOSES ONLY, and provide the means for properly educating, training and equipping their officers and men."

"The second principle for a successful (citizen) force is a complement of the first. The force must be an INTEGRAL PORTION OF THE NATIONAL LIFE. The citizen should be brought up from boyhood to look forward to the day when he will be enrolled as fit to defend his country; and he should be accustomed to practise those habits of self-denial, of devotion to and emulation of his duty, of reticence, and of prompt obedience to lawful authority, which are essential to the formation of patriotic and efficient citizen soldiers."

"In these days, however, excellent fighting material and the greatest zeal, though indispensable adjuncts, are not of themselves sufficient to enable a force to take the field against thoroughly trained regular troops with any chance of success."

"The new Defence Act, which gives effect to the principle that every citizen should be trained to defend his country will give sufficient numbers to defend the country effectively if the Force provided under it is efficiently trained, organized and equipped. It must, however, be distinctly recognized that a NATIONAL FORCE maintained at a high standard of efficiency can only be produced by the work of years, and that such work must be steady and continuous, any divergency from the policy decided on may, and probably will, lead to chaos and useless expenditure of money."

"While the cadet-training is valuable as a preparation, it cannot, in my opinion, replace recruit-training, which is a necessary preliminary to the production of an efficient and trained citizen soldier."

REGISTRATION.

The manner of registration as adopted in New Zealand is interesting. A record-book will be supplied to each junior cadet on his leaving school, in which will be shown his name, address, date of birth, character, drill-qualification, description; with instructions to the cadet to present his record-book to the officer of the secondary school if he intends continuing his residence therein, or, if not, to the permanent staff officer or staff N. C. O. nearest to his place of residence, for enrolment in the senior cadets. In like manner the same record-book will be further written up showing his service in the senior cadets on his attaining the age of 18 or date of leaving secondary school; and

again the senior cadet will present his record-book to the permanent staff officer or staff N. C. O. nearest to his place of residence for registration for recruit-training in the Territorial Force.

On completion of his recruit and territorial training, his record-book will be finally written-up, and shall be a certificate of proof that such person has completed his period of personal service, and is passed into the Reserve. In time this should act automatically, and no special registration be necessary except for new arrivals. Similar record-books to be provided for men at present serving in the Territorial Force.

RECEPTION OF REPORT.

The public state of mind attained in Australia and New Zealand, which we might well like to see in Canada, is clearly set forth in an editorial from "The Dominion" of Wellington, New Zealand, on Lord Kitchener's plan, which says "His report must appeal almost as much to the average citizen as to the expert mind trained in military matters. He has based his scheme on the assumption that the country, while properly anxious to place itself in a position to defend its shores in case of need, does not wish to create a huge standing army which must drain its resources and impoverish its people. He has taken it for granted, and rightly so, we think, that the people of New Zealand recognize that the necessity has arisen for some PERSONAL SELF-SACRIFICE on their part; that the time has come when the younger people of the Dominion, capable of bearing arms, MUST SACRIFICE A LITTLE OF THEIR TIME TO THE NATIONAL WEAL. The country under Lord Kitchener's scheme is not to be over-ridden by military rule. The permanent force is still to remain a small one; BUT THE CITIZENS THEMSELVES ARE TO BE CALLED ON TO ATTAIN THAT SKILL IN THE USE OF ARMS WHICH WILL ENABLE THEM IN TIME OF NEED TO DEFEND THEIR HOMES AND THEIR FAMILIES."

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, it seems beyond question that if we are to have a healthier, more disciplined youth in Canada, a manhood trained for the swift, unexpected day of danger, a defence force which is one in fact and not in name only, a uniform loyalty to the one flag by all the mixed nationalities in our great Dominion, we must go back to the spirit of the wholesome old militia law of our forefathers which saved our country.
